

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01086 241750Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 SSM-03 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01
/101 W

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R 241643Z JAN 77
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3407
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AUSMISSION GENEVA 5735
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 1086

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UR XF
SUBJECT: MFA OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS

REF: (A) CAIRO 0889 (NOTAL), (B) MOSCOW 1019

1. SUMMARY: MFA N.E. COUNTRIES DEPT. COUNSELOR ANATOLIY IVANOVICH
FILEV (EGYPT) TOLD EMBOFF JAN. 24 THAT DEP. MIN. FOREIGN TRADE
GRISHIN STILL PLANNED TO LEAD SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION TO CAIRO
DESPITE DISTURBANCES IN EGYPT AND DESPITE ANTI-COMMUNIST, ANTI-SOVIET
CAMPAIGN BEING WAGED BY EGYPTIAN PRESS. HE AGREED HOWEVER THAT
DISTURBANCES MEANT EGYPTIANS WOULD BE DEALING FROM A WEAKENED
POSITION AND HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF EGYPTIANS
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 01086 241750Z

POSTPONED THE TALKS. END SUMMARY.

2. ASKED TO COMMENT ON SOVIET PRESS CRITICISM OF EGYPTIAN PRESS
CAMPAIGN LAYING BLAME FOR EGYPTIAN DISTURBANCES ON "MARXIST
ELEMENTS", FILEV SAID SOVIET PRESS HAD DOWNPLAYED INITIAL
EGYPTIAN CHARGES SINCE THERE WAS NO DESIRE FROM SOVIET SIDE
TO WORSEN SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS, BUT THAT CONTINUATION AND

ESCALATION OF PATENTLY FALSE CHARGES FINALLY MADE IT NECESSARY TO RESPOND. HE SAID HE HAD NO "OFFICIAL" VIEW OF INTERNAL EGYPTIAN MATTER, BUT, "SPEAKING PERSONALLY," FELT THAT DEMONSTRATIONS HAD ARISEN SPONTANEOUSLY AND WERE GENUINE MANIFESTATIONS OF POPULAR DISCONTENT OVER NOT ONLY RECENT ATTEMPT TO RAISE PRICE OF BASIC COMMODITIES, BUT OVER WHOLE TREND OF EGYPTIAN "OPEN DOOR POLICY" WHICH ENRICHED THE FEW WHILE IMPROVERISHING THE MANY.

3. EMBOFF ASKED IF THERE WERE PLANS TO POSTPONE REPORTED JAN. 25 VISIT OF SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION LED BY DEP. MIN. FOM TRADE GRISHIN (REF A). FILEV DID GIVE SPECIFIC DATE, BUT DID SAY SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION STILL PLANNED TO ARRIVE ON SCHEDULE TO NEGOTIATE ANNUAL TRADE AGREEMENT. HE AGREED THAT EGYPTIAN DISTURBANCES

AND ANTI-COMMUNIST, ANTI-SOVIET PRESS CAMPAIGN MADE TIMING UNFAVORABLE FROM EGYPTIAN POINT OF VIEW AND HE VOLUNTEERED THAT IF EGYPTIAN SIDE REQUESTED POSTPONEMENT OF TRADE DELEGATION VISIT THIS WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD.

4. IN OTHER COMMENT FILEV REPEATED SOVIET POSITION ON REFUSAL TO PAY APPROPRIATE SHARE OF EXPENSES OF U.N. FORCES IN SINAI AND SAID BREZHNEV REFERENCE TO STATE OF ISRAEL IN HIS JAN. 18 TULA SPEECH WAS INTENDED TO EMPHASIZE SOVIET PRINCIPLED POSITION IN THIS REGARD. HE WAS NOT SURE HOWEVER IF THIS WAS FIRST BREZHNEV

EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO ISRAEL (REF B). ASKED IF BREZHNEV'S REMARKS IN SAME SPEECH ON RIGHTS OF ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE MEANT SOVIET SUPPORT FOR A PALESTINIAN STATE IN CLOSE RELATIONSHIP TO JORDAN, HE SAID THAT WHILE SOVIET UNION SUPPORTED SELF-CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 01086 241750Z

DETERMINATION FOR PALESTINIANS, DETAILS WERE FOR PALESTINIANS AND ARABS TO DECIDE.

5. COMMENT: FILEV DID NOT APPEAR UNHAPPY OVER SADAT'S DIFFICULTIES. SOVIETS MAY SEE LONG-TERM GAIN FOR THEMSELVES IN DETERIORATING EGYPTIAN ECONOMIC SITUATION ALTHOUGH SHORT-TERM MAY SEE INCREASED STRAIN IN SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS IF EGYPTIAN PRESS AND LEADERSHIP CONTINUE ATTEMPT TO BLAME COMMUNISTS FOR INSTIGATING DISORDERS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, FOREIGN RELATIONS
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Sent Date: 24-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 889, 77 MOSCOW 1019
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3522146
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFA OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON SOVIET-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, (FILEV, ANATOLIY IVANOVICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b91d2bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009